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SOCCER NEWS

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VICTORIA'S EIGHT IN CUP SQUAD

NATIONAL team coach Joe Vlasits has named eight Victorians for the preliminary Australian squad which is preparing for the clash with Greece and the World Cup bid later this year.

The eight men, with five from South Australia and one from Northern New South Wales, will attend a three-day training camp at Olympic Park next week, starting on Monday.

The packed program will comprise technical and tactical training, physical conditioning and lectures, with Vlasits laying down the law.

It is hoped to round off the session on Wednesday night with the "national" line-up playing a game against a State side.

The eight Victorians in the squad include four men who already have played for Australia.

Three of them played a big part in Australia's clean-sweep tour of Asia in 1967, when the team returned with a 10 games-10 wins record.

They are J.U.S.T. half-back Frank Micic and forwards Tommy McColl (Juventus) and Billy Vojtek (Croatia). The fourth man, making a comeback to the international scene, is J.U.S.T. stopper Billy Rice.

The other four, all newcomers on the Australian front, are young George Cross goalie Lou Kastner, Hellas full-back David Kelly, George Cross striker Nick McCallum, and Lions linkman Jimmy Rooney.

From South Australia will come Roger Romanowicz, the Polonia goalie, midfield men Billy Birch (Hellas), John Perin (Juventus) and Terry Wetton (Azzuri) and striker Tony Batchelor (Hellas).

The lone Northern New South Wales representative will be Ray Lloyd (Newcastle Austral).

The masseur for the camp will be Juventus and Victoria man Lou Lazzari, a regular in the Australian set-up for several years.

Team manager for the Greek tour will be John Barclay, Victoria State squad boss and chairman of the Metropolitan League.

Another squad of men from Sydney and Brisbane will train under Vlasits in Sydney early in June. Later men from all States will get together in Sydney.

The belated effort to get Australia's World Cup effort under way has come after months of bungling by hamfisted officialdom.

Most of our opponents have been in training for months, even years, and they are going to be hard men to beat.

Now Vlasits is faced with a crash programme to bring our boys up to scratch if they are to have any chance at all of doing well.

Vlasits has had his training plans drawn up since last October, but he has been continually frustrated by lethargy among the top brass, who appear to have no concept of the preparation and dedication needed for a World Cup effort.

It could well be too late now to save Australia from a hiding in South Korea in October, but Vlasits is determined to make the best of a bad job.

He is going to need all the help he can get from officials and players alike.

ROUND-ROBIN FINAL NOW

The V.S.F. has had second thoughts on the form of the new State League top four competition, to be played at the end of this season, starting on September 21.

Instead of a knock-out, as originally planned, the competition is now likely to be played on a round-robin basis.

Final plans will soon be known. In the meantime, the V.S.F. is looking round for sponsors for the competition.

Moves to form squad

VICTORIAN soccer took a step in the right direction this week with the first moves — long overdue — for the formation of an Under-23 squad.

State team chief John Barclay and coach Zvonimir Rasic have selected nine youngsters to join the senior Victorian team in training sessions at Olympic Park each week.

Manager Barclay said: "The aim is to get them indoctrinated with the Victorian idea, to make them proud of having the chance to win a Victorian shirt in the future.

"This is only a start, of course. More boys will be added to the squad and some dropped, depending on how they go.

"We hope other States will adopt a similar policy and that in time this will lead to regular Under 23 representative games, possibly with a cup at stake."

The nine young hopefuls who will get their chance first are full-backs Andrew Kazi (J.U.S.T.), Horst Friederberg (George Cross) and Graham Bibby (Ringwood City-Wilhelmina); half-back Steve Gadsby (Hakoah), and forwards Billy Rogers and Johnny Wallace (Melbourne), Michael Starczak (Lions), Vic Vella (George Cross), and Mike Mandalis (Hellas).

TURNED ATTACK

BOX HILL goalie John Hagar repulses a challenge by George Cross attackers Nick McCallum and Vic Vella at the St. Kilda ground on Saturday.

On way home

Former Hakoah half-back David Baker is returning to the club from England. He is expected to arrive in about six weeks.

The youngster, who had experience as a junior with Bristol City, showed up well several times when with the Middle Park side and won representative honors.

He was included in the Australian Under 23 squad which toured Noumea in 1967.

Hakoah, despite a long injury list, have turned in some sterling performances this season and made it clear that they cannot be taken lightly.

Key men who are still missing from the line-up include half-back Hugh Murney, winger Gordon Cameron and defender Gordon Douglas.

During their absence and that of centre-half Dick Van Alphen — he was back last week-end — regular full-back John O'Neill and half-back and skipper Alan Stenhouse have done a great job in defence.

The great experience of these players has held the defence together and spurred the younger players to greater efforts.

Despite the troubles, the team has shown a lot of fighting spirit and supporters, win or lose, usually get a good game for their money.

BACK IN ACTION

FORMER J.U.S.T. ace Tom Stankovic was back in action with the first team against Juventus at Schintler Reserve on Sunday.

Stankovic, who had a spell with Makedonia, stepped into the line-up to replace Milan Mihajlovic, who is under suspension.

Start soon

Mr. BRIAN LE FEVRE, the new $6000-a-year secretary of the Australian Soccer Federation, will start work on May 19.

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Goalie's amazing comeback

Few players in top class European soccer have a better come-back story to tell than Cudicini the present first team A.C. Milan goalkeeper who should be well remembered by Australian soccer fans since he played here in 1966 with A.S. Roma.

Something of a soccer giant, he stands over the six foot four mark, Cudicini has in his 14 years of top soccer had a meteoric rise and fall.

He broke into the big time in 1955 with Italian Second Division side Udinese and two years later moved to A.S. Roma for a considerable fee.

Hitting the 30 mark he slumped and his future looked uncertain. Sure enough by 1966 he was back in Second Division soccer this time with Brescia.

However, Cudicini was far from finished with the big-time. And although it came as a shock to many of the Italian fans he once again stepped up to the top grade when A.C. Milan paid about $40,000 a paltry fee by Italian standards for his services when he was then 32.

Today Cudicini is the toast of A.C. Milan who look a good bet to lift the 1969 European Cup.

★ ★ ★

Wilf McGuiness the new Manchester United manager and successor to Sir Matt Busby needs no introduction to the "Red Devils". Wilf, a former player of the club until injury cut short his career, has until his present appointment been club trainer. Now 31 he was twice capped for England.

★ ★ ★

If the United States appear in the World Cup Finals in Mexico and it's on the cards they will, one player from their side is sure to attract the attention of Europe's team managers and scouts. At least according to U.S. team boss — Phil Woosnam the former Welsh internationalist.

He is Pete Millar who went to America at an early age and played all his soccer there.

★ ★ ★

West Germany, favorites to win their section in the World Cup preliminary rounds, have never failed to qualify for the World Cup final stages — in fact they have never even lost a qualifying match.

★ ★ ★

The Brazilian F.A. have put a ban on all transfers until after the 1970 World Cup.

★ ★ ★

Flamengo, the most popular club in Rio de Janeiro, publish their own weekly paper which has a circulation of 90,000.

★ ★ ★

Bert Trautmann, the German-born former goalkeeper of Manchester City, is back in Britain looking for a post as a manager after a spell in his homeland as team boss of F.C. Munster in the Bundeslega.—**Alistair Cook.**

BATTLE OF THE IMPORTS

New South Wales first division clubs in Sydney are clashing off the field as well as on it in what can only be described as the "battle of the imports".

The top sides are splashing out thousands of dollars on players from the U.K. and other parts of Europe to boost their line-up for the big league fight.

Auburn, newcomers to top company, have dug deep into their pockets in a bid to make sure they stay up.

Among the big signings is former English schoolboy international Chris Crowe, 29, who played with Bristol City. Many experts rate him the best catch in Sydney for years.

Also wearing the Auburn colors now is Henry Selfridge, from Scottish first division side Raith Rovers. And two more first division Scots are on the way.

Pan-Hellenic have brought back Greek star Takis Loukanidis, the tricky attacker who proved the biggest drawcard in Sydney soccer last season. With him came two other Greeks.

Pan-Hellenic are involved in a two-club prestige battle with another Greek-sponsored side, Canterbury. Both are trying to woo Sydney's Greek fans by bringing stars from Greece.

Pan-Hellenic claim that Loukanidis and his mates are better players than the three Greeks signed by Canterbury recently.

Other Sydney clubs have signed some of Victoria's best players in recent months — State men Tommy Randles (Slavia), Attila Abonyi (Melbourne), and George Keith (Hakoah) are three of them — so the chips will be down when things hot up later in the season.

But one challenge will come from a club which prefers home-grown talent — Prague.

After a build-up of several years, which has brought many Australian-born players into the picture, this young side is beginning to reap the reward and should go well.

MISS RICCARDA FALZON, 19 (at left), an entrant in the Juventus Miss Soccer quest. A shop assistant of Newport, Riccarda has been sponsored by Consolidated Insurances Ltd.

MISS DIANNE HORE, 21, who has been sponsored by the Cester Poultry Supply Co. in the Juventus Miss Soccer quest. Dianne is a hairdresser.

SAD NEWS FOR SOCCER...

THE State Electricity Commission's decision to close down the town of Yallourn was sad news for soccer.

Yallourn Soccer Club publicity officer, D. Coggan, says this in a letter to Soccer News.

"The closing of the town could mean that one of the old and respected names could disappear from the list of Victorian clubs," he says.

"Yallourn Soccer Club was formed in 1923 by construction workers of the original power station, and from its earliest days followed what is a soccer instinct — to travel.

"For most of its life Yallourn has competed against Melbourne teams. Two life members of the club, Tommy Oddy and Tommy Evans, can recall 1927 travelling in A model Fords and Essex tourers over unmade roads to play such teams as Footscray Thistle and Royal Caledonians.

"Today the team travels in its own bus, which it purchased this year, but we are sure the players would crawl over broken glass on hands and knees for the chance to play soccer."

Mr. Coggan adds: "The club reached its peak in 1951, when it was the State's top team, Division 1 champions of the VASFA. Their best-known player was Phil. Blunt, Australia and Victoria goalkeeper, still keeping goal for them. In 1955 Phil narrowly missed winning the Argus Medal.

"Yallourn always has had a strong content of local players, and as the flow of migrants to the Latrobe Valley tapers off, the number of local players in the team increases, and today 75 per cent. of the senior list have graduated through local junior clubs.

"The facilities for all sports in Yallourn are second to none, and soccer is well catered for. The club shares Yallourn No. 2 oval with the local Rules team using No. 3 oval when fixtures clash.

"Amenities at No. 2 are first-class and metropolitan clubs who have played on No. 3 agree that it has the best playing surface of any ground in Victoria.

"It is a great pity that excellent sports ovals such as these must be torn up to reach the rich deposits of coal that lie beneath them."

YOUR COLUMN

CONDUCTED BY G. A. YELLAND

This is YOUR column. It is intended for you, our readers, to express your views on all aspects of the game in Australia. Controversy and CONSTRUCTIVE criticism are invited, but all letters must include the name and address of the writer (not necessarily for publication).

Should you require a private reply, you MUST include a stamped, addressed envelope.

Soccer News reserves the right to print part or all of any letter received.

Address your letters to:
THE EDITOR,
Soccer News,
c/- 68 St. James Road,
ROSANNA, 3084,
Victoria.

Sir,

Could you please tell me where I can get some "Soccer Pool" entry forms?

A. ASLANGUL.

● **Your letter has been passed on to "Taffy," our Pools expert.—Editor.**

Sir,

Various articles have been writen recently, about rough tactics in soccer. Supporters do not want this type of game, but hope for fair decisions during a 90-minute match.

A player is guilty of misconduct because the referee, the only judge, says so. Does it necessarily mean that this man is right?

I am sure everybody is open for criticism for his own sake and for the sake of the individual player and his team.

I suggest that a committee, within the V.S.F., be set up to review the decisions and judge the abilities of a referee.

They should make certain that each man knows his soccer rules before stepping on to a field.

B. PATERSON,
St. Kilda Rd., Melbourne.

● **Law 5 states that the referee has full discretionary powers. His interpretation of all incidents on the field of play is final. In other words, no matter what others may think, his decisions are correct in law.**

An Inspection Committee is operative to judge the ability of referees. Shortage of qualified men makes it impossible to inspect all referees as often as is desirable. All referees MUST pass an exam. on knowledge of football law before being allowed to officiate. — Editor.

Sir,

I would like to know of a team where I can play soccer. Would you please publish for me where I can go. I play outside-left.

HUDY EDE,
3 Blair St., Coburg,
Victoria, 3058.

● **Perhaps you might try Coburg United or Moreland, both play in your area. Club secretaries and ground locations are in the Year Book. — Editor.**

Sir,

A photo caption recently said "Centre-half Jock Goodwin." On another picture of the same issue he is called "half-back." Now this IS confusing.

● **Surely not; centre or wing-half is still a half-back.—Editor.**

Photos with an empty grandstand on the rear. I think it is shameful to create such a bad image that no one was there, when you say 3429 spectators attended.

● **We feel our cameraman is doing a first-class job under difficult circumstances. Light direction and position of incidents govern direction of camera. Bigger crowds would solve this one. We are doing our part to attract spectators. How much are you and other fans doing to bring more along? — Editor.**

Caption, "The Wide World of Soccer." The content of this article, British soccer. You don't say just England is the world, do you? So either you change the name or the contents of this page by giving ALL the world a little go.

● **A good point. We are trying to fix up something along these lines, but we have been operating only six weeks, and these things take a litle time.—Editor.**

Juniors. Can't criticise, because you say almost nothing. If nothing else matters, I think if you printed ALL the scores, scorers and tables, how many kids would buy a copy of the paper for the sake of seeing their name and their team in print.

I hope I have not annoyed you and accordingly wish you success with the paper.

ROLANDO BARRINI,
Canning St., N. Carlton.

● **No, Mr. Barrini, we are not annoyed, quite the reverse. We welcome constructive suggestions.**

We refer your last point to Mr. John Robb AND al' junior club secretaries. Allocation of limited space is also a major headache. Clubs are not as co-operative as they might be in supplying our contributors with FULL information. — Editor.

RESULTS

Lions v. Polonia, 4-1 (Reserves 3-1); Ringwood City Wilhelmina v. Melbourne, 2-0 (1-0); George Cross v. Box Hill, 1-0 (3-2); South Melbourne Hellas v. Hakoah, 3-2 (1-0); Footscray J.U.S.T. v. Juventus, 1-2 (0-0); Croatia v. Port Melbourne Slavia, 0-1 (0-2).

Division One

Alexander v. Sunshine City 2-0 (Reserves 3-1); Preston Makedonia v. Maribyrnong Triestina, 0-1 (3-4); Altona City v. Springvale, 0-1 (4-3); Keilor City v. Elwood Austria, 0-1 (4-1); Dandenong City v. Coburg, 2-3 (2-2); Ringwood United v. St. Albans, 3-1 (4-1).

Division Two

Yallourn v. Brunswick Athena, 0-0 (Reserves 10-0); Prahran City v. Park Rangers, 2-1 (6-0); Albion Rovers v. Waverley, 2-1 (2-0); Moreland Thistle v. Sandringham City, 1-0 (4-0); Frankston City v. Ferntree Gully, 5-1 (3-1); Richmond v. Green Gully Ajax, 4-3 (4-1.)

Division Three

Univ. of Melb. v. Ballarat, 0-3 (1-1); Glenroy v. East Melb. Helvetic, 3-1 (3-2); Bayswater v. St. Kilda, 2-4 (4-4); Croydon v. Princes Park Hercules, 1-4 (3-3); Chelsea v. Brighton, 3-2 (2-4;) Heidelberg v. Clayton, 2-3 (3-4).

Division Four

South Yarra v. Corio, 1-0 (Reserves 1-1); Mornington v. Mooroolbark, 0-5 (1-3); Western Suburbs v. Rosebud, 8-0 (5-1); Moorabbin v. Nth. Carlton Olympic, 1-0 (1-4); Eltham v. Doncaster Rovers, 3-2 (1-3); Newport v. Monash Univ., 3-4 (6-0).

Thirds

Hakoah v. Croydon, 0-2; Doncaster v. Dandenong, 0-11; Clayton v. Springvale, 2-1; Brighton v. Univ. of Melb., 6-0; Mooroolbark v. Frankston City, 3-4.

Eastern Division

Oakleigh v. Langwarrin, 1-10; Chadstone v. South Dandenong, 8-1; Frognall v. Northcote City, 1-9; Hawksburn v. Frankston Pines, 1-3.

Western Division

North Altona v. North Sunshine, 1-0; Melton v. Pascoe Vale, 4-0; Carlton v. Garden City, 1-4; Yarraville v. Kingsville, 1-7.

Central Division

Fitzroy v. Anstey, 1-1; Middle Park v. Regent, 0-1; Elsternwick v. Fawkner; W. Prest v. Keon Park, 0-1.

Reserve Division

North Sunshine v. Army Apprentices; East Carlton v. Langwarrin, 1-0; Chadstone v. South Dandenong, 4-0; Carlton v. Fawkner, 5-1.

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George Yelland looks at State League form

SHOCKS IN BIG GAMES

AN unexpected victory by Juventus over the top side, Footscray J.U.S.T., allowed Ringwood City to resume State League leadership.

Port Melbourne Slavia provided another shock in beating Croatia by the only goal of the game.

Improved attacking play by some teams is reflected in increasing crowds.

Lions abandoned their defensive style and look a far more attractive proposition. On Saturday they slammed four goals into the net of luckless Polonia.

South Melbourne Hellas and Hakoah produced an exciting, thrill packed display.

The week-end's games resulted in Ringwood, Hellas, Juventus and Footscray being closely locked in the top four positions. George Cross are handily placed just outside the four.

Box Hill and Polonia, both without a victory, are languishing at the foot of the ladder.

LIONS 4 (Murney, Patterson, Horner, Smart), POLONIA 1 (Gadja). REFEREE: Mr. D. Yelland. Montgomery Park. Crowd 655.

Lions, after an indifferent start, ran out easy winners against Polonia last Saturday.

For 20 minutes, playing against a strong breeze, Polonia easily held a shot shy Lion's forward line.

Gerry Murney gave his side a great boost by scoring with a well judged, swerving free kick from the edge of the penalty area.

This brought Lions to life and young Patterson immediately scored a second with a fine cross shot.

Lions made it three early in the second half. Colin Horner kept up his scoring record by slamming a 15-yard low drive through a crowded goal mouth into the net.

Polonia missed at least one easy chance. Kowalec, Marmur and Czapnik all had hard luck when rasping shots hit the woodwork.

Norbert Gadja, playing his last game for Polonia, scored a great goal with a flying header from a through pass by Orlinski.

Jimmy Smart was put through by Rooney to score number four and seal the game for Lions.

Lions, with successive victories under their belts, are showing a welcome emphasis on attack.

GEORGE CROSS 1 (Armour) BOX HILL 0. REFEREE: Mr. G. Harrison. St. Kilda. Crowd 1447.

George Cross made heavy weather of defeating Box Hill at St. Kilda on Saturday.

They had the balance of play, but finished weakly. Voce and Brown were outstanding in Box Hill's rearguard.

It took Cross almost an hour to find the net for the only goal of the match. Armour cleverly finished off a McCallum free kick with a shot which was deflected into the top of the net by a defender.

Falconer Ireland gave another sparkling performance in defence for the home side.

Box Hill were a trifle unlucky to lose their record of having scored in every game. More steadiness and better finishing could have brought them a point.

RINGWOOD CITY WILHELMINA 2 (Spiekerman, Edgely), MELBOURNE 0. REFEREE: Mr. C. CONTINI. JUBILEE PARK. CROWD 755.

Ringwood comfortably resisted Melbourne's challenge at Jubilee Park last Saturday.

Victory in this game gave Ringwood the leadership once again.

The young Melbourne side fought hard and missed chances, but the home defence was solid and never lost poise.

Up forward, Ringwood still lack bite. Newcomer Brian Edgeley celebrated his debut with a late goal which gave respectability to the score.

Architect of most Wilhelmina attacks was Wim Spiekerman. He gave his side an early lead when cracking home a perfect pass from Seenstra.

Both sides missed too many opportunities and Ringwood must develop more "killer instinct" in attack to maintain their exalted position.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 3 (Panagiotopoulos, Ackerley 2) HAKOAH 2 (Armstrong, Cleary). REFEREE: Mr. D. WOOTTEN. MIDDLE PARK. CROWD 6540.

Incident packed soccer with five good goals added up to a crowd-pleasing spectacle in the Middle Park Derby last Sunday.

Hakoah's re-organised side matched Hellas in most departments.

Panagiotopoulos captured a perfect cross by Pyrgolios to give Hellas a lead that was short lived.

Armstrong equalised with a great goal and honors were even at the interval. The second half was cut and thrust all the way. Each member of both sides gave maximum effort.

Ackerley scored a terrific goal from 30 yards to put South Melbourne in the lead again. Once more this was nullified. New striker Cleary cleverly beat the Hellas goalie.

Very few minutes remained when a tragic mistake by van Alphen left Ackerley with the opportunity to snatch victory.

Gorrie, who played unselfishly, and masterminded many attacks, lobbed the ball goalwards. Van Alphen, in trying to clear, nodded the ball straight to the feet of Ackerley, who promptly slammed a 20-yard drive just inside the post. Henderson had no chance whatever.

South Melbourne are the most exciting team to watch in the League. They go flat out in attack and on Sunday even David Kelly, David High and Johnny Bedford let loose power drives for goals.

A great game which must do Soccer a ton of good.

FOOTSCRAY - J.U.S.T. 1 (Zoraja), JUVENTUS 2 (Thompson, McColl). Referee: Mr. S. Del Colle. Schindler Reserve. Crowd 4,510.

Footscray's balance was upset by the absence of Mihailovic and Fode, both under suspension.

Close attention to danger man Buljevic by Pat Della, Rocca and pivot Irvine blunted J.U.S.T.'s attack.

Footscray played delightful midfield soccer and had territorial advantage for most of the game.

Zoraja finished off a left wing attack in the first 45 seconds to give the home side a morale boosting lead.

First time tackling by full backs Sonsini and Gentry, coupled with the destroying tactics of pivot Irvine, kept Footscray at bay for the rest of the game.

Thompson equalised at the 28-minute mark after a defensive misunderstanding. Twenty minutes from time McColl touched a long ball from Gentry past the advancing goalkeeper to give Juventus a rather fortunate win.

CROATIA 0 PORT MELBOURNE-SLAVIA 1 (Livingstone). Referee: Mr. B. Finnegan. Olympic Park. Crowd: 1,494.

Are Croatia a one man team? Without Jimmy McKay Croatia's attack looks threadbare. Inability to finish and an outstanding performance by Mike O'Hara in Slavia's goal, lost them a game which they should have won comfortably.

Croatia had the balance of play, but Slavia's defensive covering, following Livingstone's early goal, was too much for them.

Technically, Slavia gave a near perfect exhibition of defensive soccer.

Unfortunately this is not the stuff that spectators want to watch.

From the terraces the match was one big yawn and both sides will have to show more enterprise and goal getting to bring in the crowds.

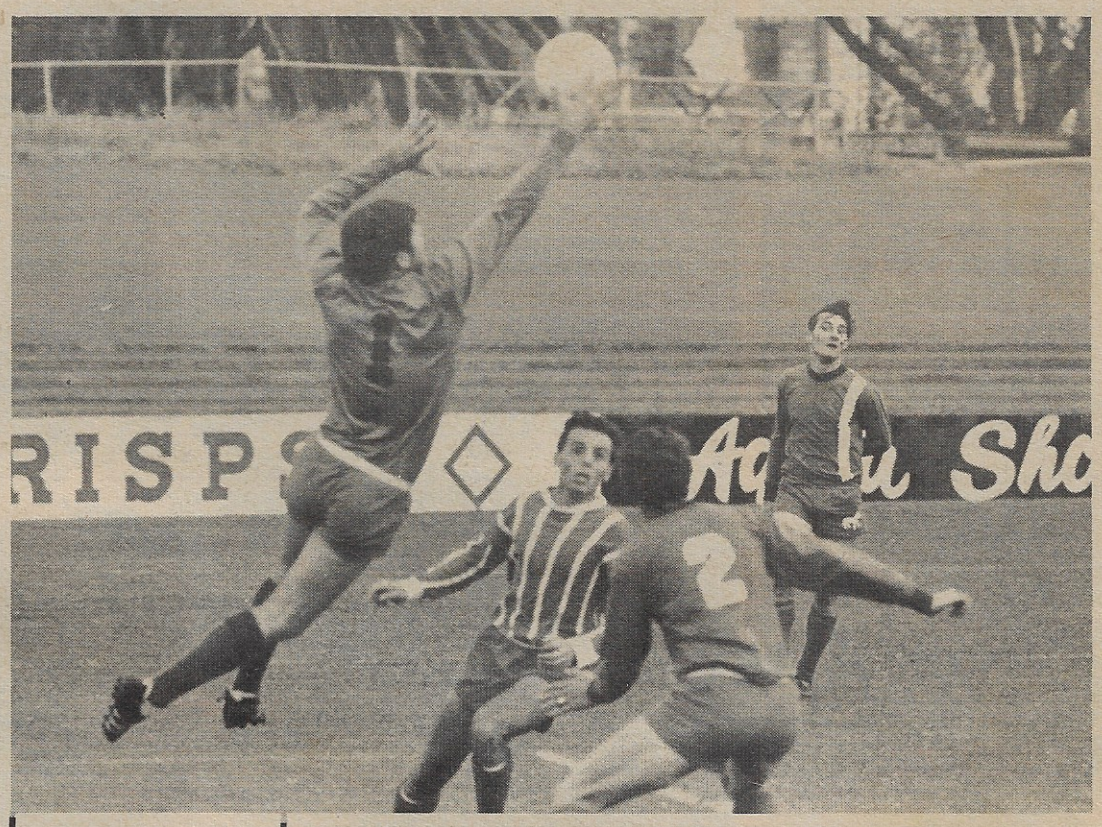
LAST GAME AND BERT GOT GOAL

POLONIA half-back or forward Bert Gajda marked his last game with the club last week-end with a great goal against Lions at Montgomery Park.

Meeting a long ball from full-back Orlinski, the former Polish international flashed it home with his head, giving Lions goalie Evans no chance.

But the Gajda effort could not stave off yet another defeat — their sixth in six games — for the Maribyrnong club and they are now in real trouble.

Gajda joined the club about three years ago after playing many games as a forward for the Poland national team.



BOX HILL goalie John Hagar clears the ball with Vic Vella (George Cross winger) and Box Hill defender Dick Rae waiting for him to make a slip.

★

Close battles seem likely

INTEREST is mounting in the State League competition and exciting games, with plenty of goals, are bringing increased following to the code.

So far there is no clear indication of the eventual League champions. Any one of the present top six could carry off the flag as tension mounts week by week.

Last week there were several surprise results which caused a reshuffling of League positions.

Footscray's shock home defeat by Juventus dropped them into fourth place on the ladder.

Ringwood City jumped back into top spot, with South Melbourne Hellas on their heels. Only goal average separates them.

This coming week-end may see a new leader if Hellas defeat Melbourne and Wilhelmina fail to win against Juventus.

Box Hill meet Slavia at Wembley Park on Saturday in a game which is likely to hinge on defences.

Slavia tightened up their defence against Croatia, but Box Hill were unlukcy to lose by only an odd goal to George Cross.

Juventus and Ringwood will meet in a titanic struggle at Olympic Park.

Wilhelmina's compact defence may be sufficient to combat the craft of Thompson and McColl.

Juventus should scramble over this hurdle, but with so much resting on the game a draw could be the final outcome.

Despite Lions' newfound attacking punch, the polished and disciplined Hakoah side will be too big an obstacle.

The Middle Park boys have not had much luck in several games. Injuries have hit them hard, but I think they will collect two points on Saturday.

Polonia and George Cross, usually an attractive game, will meet at Maribyrnong on Sunday.

Neither side is impressive, in spite of Cross's high position in the League. Polonia have hit the woodwork so many times this season that they must wonder if they will ever score a win.

If Jimmy McKay returns, the Croatia-J.U.S.T. battle will be the game of the round.

Zvonimir Rasic has coached his boys to a high standard of soccer brilliance. Their potential is such that they should have a clear-cut win.

Croatia, lacking the dynamic approach of last season, have been hit with injuries. They can never be discounted, for the side is full of individual talent.

I think Footscray will win, but it could be very, very close.

South Melbourne Hellas carry too many guns for the talented but inexperienced Melbourne youngsters.

Balance upset

Springvale plan

SPRINGVALE'S hopes of making a strong bid for promotion to the State League next year have been dashed by a series of injuries.

The club, starting its third year in the Metropolitan League First Division, is keen to prove to wealthier clubs that, with a dedicated approach, a small team can reach the top.

The Springvale officials aim to do it by using only local talent and not spending a penny on imports.

But now, with several of the best players out, the effort will have to be delayed until a new bunch of youngsters make the grade in the first team.

The team's plans took a big blow when regular right-back Robert Commons, who had been approached by several State League clubs, had to have a knee operation. He will be out for at least another year.

Also out for a year, because of eye trouble, is centre-half Daniol Pegolo who, Springvale officials claim, would be worth a place in any State League team.

The bad luck continued when right-winger David Hyde injured an ankle in a Dockerty Cup game with Keilor City.

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Soccer profile

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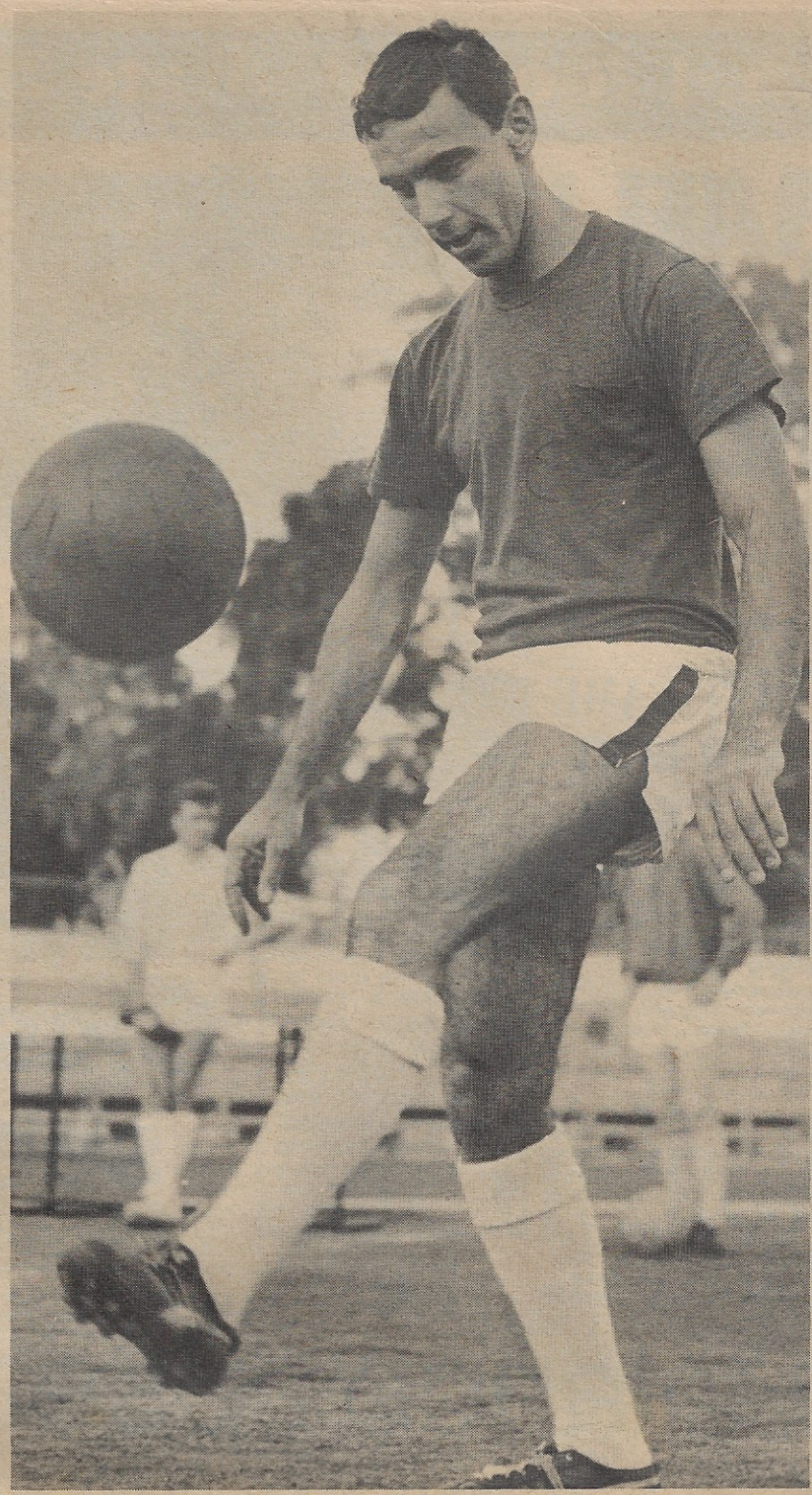

By GEORGE YELLAND

"Sportsmanship, self-discipline and dedication are the essentials for success in Soccer". So says William Robert Rice, known to Soccer lovers throughout Victoria and Australia as "Billy" Rice, ace pivot of Footscray J.U.S.T.

Who should know better than Billy who, throughout a long and illustrious career in the game, has never been sent off and rose to become centre-half for our National team.

Born in the Northern Ireland city of Belfast on the 12th September, '38, Billy played left-half for Hemsworth Square elementary school at the tender age of 12 years.

It will surprise many of his fans to learn that he was a prolific goal-scorer when he played for the Boys' Brigade team. A scout from top Irish club, Distillery, spotted and signed him up while he was still in his early teens.

His parents' decision to emigrate to Australia in 1955, taking along their two sons and daughter, completely changed Billy's footballing career.

He signed for Footscray Capri on his arrival in Melbourne and played with them until they amalgamated with JUST. He continued to play with the combine and has, in fact, NEVER been transferred in Australia.

It is a measure of the stability, character and skill of this player, that he has been content to stay with the one club and they are more than happy to keep him.

Fearless in the tackle, invincible in the air, his constructive play brought representative honours in State and National teams. He played for Australia six times. He carried the National badge against touring Chelsea and A.S. Roma at home and in Cambodia, Hong Kong and Thailand.

Recently restored to the State side, he has represented Victoria 17 times.

At 30 years of age, he is still one of the fittest and most able centre-halves in Australia.

The Rice family is completely happy in Australia which they now regard as home.

Billy, besides being a star Soccer player, is also a skilled instrument mechanic for both electronic and pneumatic equipment. His younger brother is a left-back or left-half with Metropolitan First Division side Altona City.

Billy Rice makes some pointed comments on Soccer in Australia. He is convinced that the game has a tremendous future here, IF we concentrate on youth at schoolboy and youth club level.

"Every effort must be made to coach and inspire them, by providing top-class coaches and making Australia a name that means something in the Football world."

He is convinced that National team names MUST GO for Soccer to gain universal appeal and acceptance in Australia.

He feels that referees in Victoria do a pretty good job but a number of them are over technical with minor infringements, accurate placement of the ball for free-kicks, etc. This slows the game down, irritates players and spectators and spoils the game as a spectacle.

He regards F.I.F.A. man David Maitland, as the best referee he has ever played under.

"Soccer is a man's game and was intended to be played hard and intelligently. It is, however, a sport and should be played sportingly. It should develop character and human relationships. It should be enjoyed by players, officials and spectators."

This is part of the Rice philosophy. His exemplary behaviour on and off the field, his sportsmanship, dedication and ability are object lessons for aspiring youngsters.

It is hoped that we shall see Billy playing for many more years.

No better advice could be given to Juniors than this: "Watch Billy Rice in action, then try to model yourselves on him."

He detests bad language and is one of a very small number of players in Victoria, never to have incurred a referee's displeasure for swearing on the field. Experienced players and Juniors alike, please note!

SCAPEGOATS IN HOLLAND

With the Dutch season nearing its end, clubs are beginning to find scapegoats for their failings.

The first to go in the ERE division are P. De Visser, the trainer of Telstar, and Jan Blokland, trainer of AZ 67.

ADO have signed up a new trainer, Vaclav Jazek, of the Czech team Spartak, which was beaten by Ajax in the European Cup semi-final. He takes over from Win Happel, who has resigned.

In the first division, Frans de Munck has been sacked as trainer of Vitesse, who have failed badly in past weeks. Cor Brom, assistant trainer of Ajax, will step into the job.

▲ Full back Alan McBain passes the b

SL BA

▲ Former goalie Ray Barotajs dives fo

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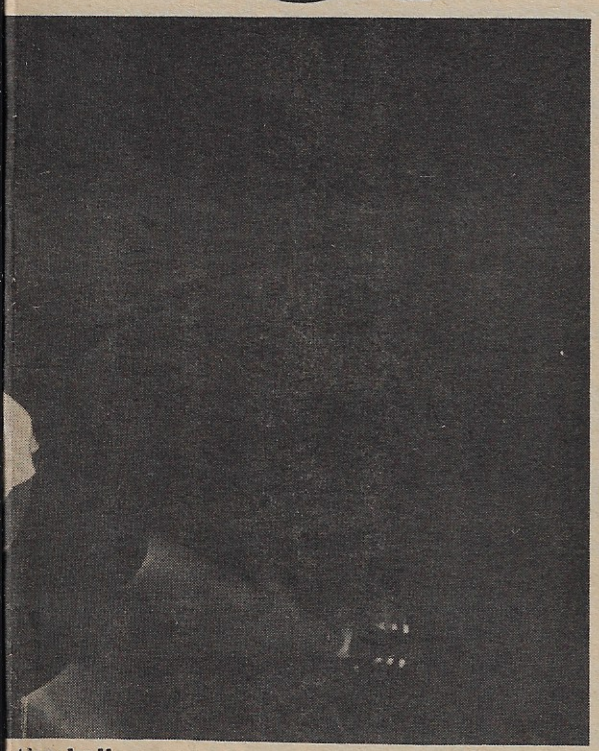
ll at training.

▲ Forward Willie Kerr heads the ball at training.

▲ Mike O'Hara goalie

AVIA TTLE ON



the ball.

The Port Melbourne Slavia team, once feared as one of the best line-ups in the State League, are finding the going pretty tough just now.

Last season their fortunes slumped badly and they finished well down the table after a frustrating year.

The reason for the about-turn is not hard to find. There has been a constant drain on the player resources of the club, which a few years back regularly had more representative players than any other Victorian side.

The latest setbacks came when top half-back and skipper Tommy Randles followed the well-worn trail into the big-money Sydney set-up and strong midfield man Jock Goodwin moved to Juventus.

No club can replace two men of this calibre at short notice and their loss has left a big gap in the Slavia ranks, despite the efforts of the present players.

Randles and Goodwin are only two of a long line of fine players who have served and left Slavia over the years.

Among those who left their mark before moving to what they believed to be greener pastures were two top forwards from Britain, John Docherty and Des Palmer.

Docherty, a forward, came from London side Fulham, where he played alongside former England skipper and inside-forward Johnny Haynes.

Palmer, a former Welsh international inside-forward, was one of the best men to play in Victoria.

Other good performers who kissed Slavia goodbye include Australian or State team men such as Stan Ackerley, Nigel Shepherd and David High, all full-backs, and forwards Archie Blue and Hammy McMeechan.

Then there was acrobatic goalie Willi Shcroif, the former Czechoslovakian World Cup star, who turned in some of the most exciting between-the-sticks displays seen in Victoria.

His sudden departure left the club on the spot and the veteran Ray Barotas had to come out of retirement to step into the breach until new signings were made recently.

Before all these men left Slavia built up a fine record in the honors list and, though never spectacular, could always be relied upon to do a solid job.

In 1963 they became the first club to win the Australia Cup and the next two years saw them take off Victoria's own Dockerty Cup.

In 1966 they again reached the final of the Dockerty Cup but were beaten. In the same year they were runners-up in the State League.

The team really hit the high spots in 1967, pulling off a unique treble by winning the Ampol Night Cup, the Dockerty Cup again and the Harry Armstrong Reserve Cup.

In 1968 they were again Ampol Night Cup finalists, losing narrowly in extra time. Then the slide started.

A big cause of the trouble was the loss of stalwart centre-half Billy Cook, who was out for a long time after being injured while playing for Victoria against Cardiff City.

Much of the success over the years was due to the efforts of chairman John Oliphant, 'Mr. Slavia' himself, but he is no longer active with the club.

Today's men at the helm are Mr. Frank Kastanek, president; Mr. Imre Gas, acting chairman and team manager; Mr. Joe Nespor, secretary; Mr. Harry Hanford, masseur, a former star in Welsh soccer; and Tad Kraus, coach and player, who is a former Czechoslovakian international.

One of their biggest problems is how to improve the ground at Port Melbourne's Murphy Reserve, which has plenty of potential but lacks any shelter or crowd amenities.

A strange lack of supporters, even when the team was going good, has always prevented any progress in this direction.

But the club has not given up hope that the Port Melbourne council will one day help them to bring the ground up to a better standard.

One thing is certain. With its small band of supporters the club will never be able to do the job itself.

A club official said: "People have got money to spend these days but they like comfort. Even soccer lovers will not come to sports grounds where there are no facilities.

"Supporters these days want to make a day out of things. Look at the boom in trotting and greyhound racing. All this is due to the first-class amenities which are available.

"People want their money's worth out of a visit to a sporting event. That is soccer's big trouble — our grounds have so little to offer."

Among the first-team squad men who are fighting to put the Slavia club back on the map in its 20th anniversary year are:

Goalies, Mike O'Hara and Ian Macdonald; defenders, Ian Livingstone, Alan McBain, Tony Zanatta, Alan Reed, Billy Cook, Alan Sjo; forwards, Ian Reid, Mike Jurecki, Tad Kraus, Russell Steele, Jim Gildea, Willie Kerr, and Jim Paul.

The club is hoping to bring four men from overseas soon, including one from Czechoslovakia.

● **Next week, the Hellas story**

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ALEXANDER HAVE TAKEN A CLEAR LEAD

With their well-earned 2-0 win over Sunshine City, Alexander now hold a commanding three-point lead at the top of Metropolitan First Division following the surprise defeat of Keilor City and Dandenong City.

By ALISTAIR COOK

Obviously with such a break at this early stage of the year, they are going to be hard to dislodge from the top position by the time the end of the season comes round.

Depite Alexander's expected victory it was shocks galore in every other division last week-end. In First Division the feats of Elwood Austria and Coburg in toppling Keilor and Dandenong respectively deserve special mention.

Triestina, too, came into the act by winning from Makedonia and improving Ringwood United's 3-1 win over St. Albans left Ken Kontras' team the only pointles side in all four divisions.

Elwood Austria downed the promotion-fancied Keilor City 1-0 in a fast and hard-fought game at St. Albans.

The Elwood side, who fielded three newcomers following the previous week's poor display, held Keilor scoreless in the first half, in which both defences were well on top.

Peter Arendt put Austria ahead after 20 minutes into the second half, when he scored with an 18-yard shot following a cross-field pass by Peter Reynolds.

A few minutes later Elwood centre-forward Steve Brown came close to increasing his side's lead when he hit the crossbar with the Keilor goalkeeper well beaten.

SAVED

Inside-right Stan Kovacz had a chance to equalise in the 66th minute for Keilor, but his 10-yard shot was brilliantly saved by goalkeeper Frank Petersen.

Coburg highlighted Dandenong City's weaknesses in defence with a surprising 3-2 victory in their game at Dandenong.

Although Dandenong proved their first-half superiority with a goal by Peter Lowen after 15 minutes, they again failed to capitalise on several easy chances.

Sammy Loughran equalised for Coburg 10 minutes after half-time when he slammed home a cross by former Lions' winger Davie Wilson. Shortly after, Dandenong took the lead when a good cross by Dave Parker was headed home by Bill Mailey.

However, Coburg equalised when Bobby Malcolm scored from a penalty kick 10 minutes from time, and Graham Watson gave them a winning lead with a tremendous 15-yard shot late in the game.

Ringwood United, following a good start in windy conditions, went on to score a comfortable 3-1 win over the struggling St. Albans side.

TOOK LEAD

Inside-left del George put United into the lead in the first minute of the game following good work by Tony Watson and a few minutes later right-winger Peeuw scored with a good shot from just inside the penalty area.

Twenty minutes after half-time, Teeuw scored another good goal for Ringwood, when he cut in from the right wing before netting with a strong 20-yard shot.

Springvale continued with their good form by defeating Altona City 1-0 in a hard game.

Altona's performance against Springvale was a good one, when one considers that they played most of the game with only nine men, following the first-half expulsion of two of their players. Officials of the Altona club refused to disclose the reasons why these players had been ordered from the field, and said that the matter would be dealt with at a club meeting on Monday night.

Maribyrnong Triestina scored a surprise 1-0 win over a disappointing Preston-Makedonia side at Collier St., Preston.

The Preston side failed to live up to their reputation in a scoreless first half and Triestina took the lead five minutes after half-time when a cross by Higgins was volleyed home from 15 yards by centre-forward Tribuzio.

SECOND DIVISION

Waverley, who were beaten 2-1 by Albion Rovers, forfeited their place as League leaders to Richmond, who defeated Green Gully Ajax in a high-scoring game.

Frankston, with new centre-forward John Walton finding the net again, continued to climb the ladder, while Albion Rovers also are settling down to the task of collecting points.

Sandringham, Ferntree Gully and Park Rangers are finding the going tough, with the Rangers still looking for their first win after six games.

The experience of Richmond proved to be the telling factor in their 4-3 win over Green Gully Ajax.

Former Lions' player Rolf Beinroth put Richmond into a short-lived lead after five minutes, for Vella soon replied for Ajax to show it would be a game with plenty of goals.

It was not long before tremendous shots by Horst Gwinner and Manni Kuehn found the net to give Richmond a commanding lead at the 20-minute mark.

Frankston City scored a comfortable 5-1 win over Ferntree Gully to move into the top four of the division.

John Walton scored three goals for City and if he continues with such sparkling form he could prove a magnet for any State League side.

Prahran City consolidated their position with a well-earned 2-1 win over Park Rangers.

Playing with the wind in the first half Park Rangers found the Prahran defence hard to pass and they fell back into defensive play, which was able only to contain the City forward line until the 20th minute, when the Prahran outside-left scored following a free kick.

The game was even for the remainder of the first half and at half-time Park Rangers brought on Bob Denton for Ray Kidd. It was not long before the Rangers' youngster made his presence known, for in the 48th minute he scored with a perfect 25-yard volley.

Despite Rangers' improvement, Freund scored the winner at the 66th minute mark to give Prahran a narrow victory.

Moreland Thistle continued their good form with a 1-0 win over Sandringham City.

Former Hellas player Johnny Johnston scored the only goal for Thistles after five minutes when he angled the ball past the Sandringham keeper after being put in the clear by Derek Wilkes.

THIRD DIVISION

The first defeat of Brighton by lowly Chelsea provided the main headlines in this division, although they still remain leaders following East Melbourne Helvetic's surprise defeat at the hands of Glenroy United.

Country side Ballarat, following their 3-0 win over University, continue to provide a strong threat and are now only one point behind the leaders.

Chelsea's 3-2 victory over Brighton gave them their first points for the season in a spectacular fashion.

Although Robert Dale put Chelsea ahead after 20 minutes, goals to Brighton just before and just after half-time looked to be the forerunner of another good win.

But good work by Chelsea winger Jimmy Logan pushed his side along and in the 75th minute Dale volleyed home the equaliser and seven minutes later John Cocks scored a well-deserved winner.

East Melbourne Helvetic missed a golden opportunity to lead the division when they crashed 1-3 to Glenroy United.

Two penalty kicks to United gave them a head start over the East Melbourne side and although Stefan Pest scored with a 30-yard free kick, 20 minutes later Glenroy scored again.

Princes Park Hercules took advantage of a sluggish start by Croydon to score an easy 4-1 win.

Three goals in the first 25 minutes by Hercules left Croydon without any answer, and although they reduced the arrears through linkman Joe Graffin, Hercules added another in the dying seconds of the game.

Heidelberg's narrow 3-2 win over the struggling Clayton side gave them a further lift up the ladder.

FOURTH DIVISION

Mooroolbark United now have a clear two-point lead in this division, following the shock 4-3 defeat of Newport by Monash University. Corio, North Carlton Olympic and Doncaster Rovers also crashed in defeat, to make it a gala day for clubs lower down the ladder.

Although Mooroolbark United scored an easy 5-0 win over Mornington, the margin could have been wider, for they were not in the same form which they have shown in previous games.

South Yarra scored a good 1-0 win over Corio in another of the shock results of the week-end.

Western Suburbs put Rosebud back in their box when they crushed them 8-0.

SELECTIONS

First Division: Coburg, Sunshine v. Ringwood United draw, Dandenong City, Elwood Austria, Springvale v. Preston Makedonia draw, Alexander. **Second Division:** Green Gully Ajax, Richmond, Frankston City, Albion Rovers, Waverley v. Prahran City draw, Yallourn. **Third Division:** Brighton, Ballarat, Chelsea v. Croydon draw, Hercules, St. Kilda, Helvetic. **Fourth Division:** Doncaster Rovers, Newport, Eltham, Western Suburbs, Rosebud v. Mornington draw, Mooroolbark United.

Club officers with match reports should ring 329-7582 every Sunday between 9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

THIRD DIVISION GROUNDS

Ballarat Soccer Club: Llanberis Reserve, York Street, Ballarat
Bayswater United: Wantirna Reserve, Mountain Highway, Wantirna.
Brighton: Dendy Park, Nepean Highway, East Brighton.
Chelsea: Edithvale Reserve, Edithvale Reserve, Edithvale
Clayton: Gardiners Reserve, Cnr. Hilltop and Gardiners Road, Clayton.
Croydon: Hughes Park, Maroondah Highway, North Croydon.
East Melbourne Helvetic: Debneys Park, Flemington.
Glenroy United: Raynor Reserve, Watt Ave., Cnr. Devon Road, Oak Park.
Heidelberg: Cartledge Reserve, between Hawker Street and Valentine Street, Heidelberg.
Princes Park Hercules: No. 6 Princes Park, N. Carlton.
St. Kilda: Yarra Park, Batman Avenue.
University: Princess Park, Carlton.

SELECTORS' HARD JOB

By JOHN ROBB

UNDER 14 State selectors had a hard job to decide on a short list of 26 players on Sunday.

Two games will be played this Sunday at Middle Park, with South Melbourne Hellas providing the opposition.

After these games the final squad of 15 players will be chosen to represent Victoria on June 16 at Olympic Park.

Last week the junior I. and D. committee had its first sitting, when seven cases were administered.

While most of the cases heard were not serious, it is disturbing to see that most misdemeanours were committeed by officials.

Enthusiasm and club loyalty are good for the game, but the example set by adults has a bearing on the outlook of all boys who come in contact with them.

Junior soccer has no room for types who commit serious breaches of misbehaviour, and the I. and D. will do well if it discourages these erring officials.

To support the ever-widening circle of the popularity of the sport, the Geelong Little League have applied for affiliation to the VSF, and the junior management had no hesitation in approving their membership.

Junior club membership is now as big as the State, Metropolitan and District Leagues combined, and carries a big responsibility for the future success of soccer.

The Under 14 New Zealand touring club will play a curtain-raiser to the Melbourne State League game at St. Kilda on Sunday.

RESULTS

Under 8 — Friendly: Seaford 0, Karingal A 2.
Under 10: Croydon 1, Waverley City 8; Altona 2, J.U.S.T. 0; South Sunshine 0, Sunshine City 8; Seaford 4, Karingal B 1.
Under 12: Seaford 0, Langwarrin 0; Doncaster A 3, Waverley City 3; Altona 9, Werribee 0; Juventus 0, J.U.S.T. 8; Rosanna 3, Greensborough 1; Croatia 6, Clayton 1; Corio 3, Lions 0; South Sunshine 2, Sunshine City 3; Bayswater 1, Mooroolbark 0; Keilor City 1, Sunshine Hghts. 7.
Under 14: George Cross 1, Hellas 9; Chadstone 0, Sandringham 8; Croatia 8, Hakoah 0; Sth. Sunshine 2, Sunshine City 3; Bayswater 0, Ringwood City 3; Doveton 2, Waverley City 3.
Under 16: George Cross 2, Juventus 0; Sandringham 1, Waverley City 5; Altona 2, Corio 4; West Newport 0, J.U.S.T. 3; Croatia 6, Brighton 0; Corio A 4, Altona 3; Corio B 0, AJAX 2; Bayswater 0, Ringwood City 5; Keilor City 4, Sunshine Heights 1.
Under 16 (played Sunday): Ringwood Utd. 0, Waverley City 18.
Under 18: George Cross 3, Elwood 1; J.U.S.T. 8, Triestina 0; Croatia 5, Juventus 1; Ferntree Gully 5, Doveton 0; Bayswater 1, Moreland 7.

FITZROY GO DOWN

By RICK LAVALE

Fitzroy were toppled from the No. 1 position in District Central Division when Anstey held them to a 1-1 draw at Royal Park on Sunday.

Briscuso scored for Fitzroy and Hernandev replied for Anstey, following good work from Dante Moyano.

Langwarrin All-Stars, whose facilities at Lawdon Park must be the envy of many clubs, ran riot against the strong Oakleigh team to win 10-1.

Although Oakleigh started well, they lost heart when Langwarrin scored and were no opposition from that stage. Scorers for the All-Stars were Josh Monty 6, Tony Balk 2, Leenstra and Barry Bolton.

But all is not well in the Langwarrin camp and, following disagreements on team selections, inside-forward Derek Hamilton has left the club and the secretary also is resigning.

Keon Park moved to the top of the Central Division ladder with a great 1-0 win over West Preston. The all-important goal was scored at 34 minutes, when Emanuel Cassar crossed the ball from the wing for Joe Pace to ram home. Vincent Gambier starred for Keon Park in the second half, when West Preston threw everything they had into attack, and goalie Charlie Cilia pulled off some great saves to help his team to victory.

Kingsville went on their merry way and remain the only District League club with a 100 per cent. record. By defeating Yarraville 7-1 Kingsville opened up a two-point lead in the Western Division. Scorers for Kingsville were Pero 4, Cela 2 and Meilko.

Chadstone, who are on top of both the Eastern and Reserve Leagues, defeated South Dandenong 8-1, but suffered a severe setback when Tommy Doolan broke a leg and was added to a long list of injuries in the club.

Alex Fox scored a hat-trick for Chadstone, while John Turner (2), Doolan (2) and Jack Burmiston brought up the other goals.

At Fawkner Park Hawksburn got away to a good start against Frankston Pines when centre-forward Horanyi scored, but they faded badly in the second half to go down 1-3.

North Altona returned to the winning list when they beat North Sunshine 1-0 in front of a crowd of 100, in windy conditions.

After missing a penalty and hitting the woodwork twice, North Altona finally scored late in the game when Franco Ferrari smashed the ball home from a corner kick.

Frognall remains well and truly at the bottom of the Eastern Division, after taking a 9-1 walloping from Northcote, who recovered after conceding an early goal, to score through Townsend 3, Hackett 3, Bell, Giantar and Hogg.

Melton have been showing a steady improvement each week and gained an easy 4-0 win against Pascoe Vale. The Melton defence were on top throughout the game, with goalkeeper Nick Verbeen outstanding.

Regent scored the shock win of the day when they defeated Middle Park 1-0. The Regent team relied on skill to offset the rugged tackling of Middle Park and for their efforts were rewarded in the second half, when Spogionoss scored, to give Regent its first win of the season.

SELECTIONS

Eastern Division: Frankston Pines, Hawksburn, Chadstone and Oakleigh. **Central Division:** Keon Park, Anstey, Elsternwick, and Regent. **Western Division:** Kingsville, Ardeer, Melton and East Carlton.

DISTRICT LADDERS

Eastern Division: Chadstone 9, Langwarrin 7, Northcote 6, Oakleigh 6, Frankston Pines 5, Hawksburn 3, Cheltenham 3, Sth. Dandenong 3, Army Apprentices 2, Frognall 0.

Western Division: Kingsville 10, Ardeer 7, Garden City 6, East Carlton 6, Nth. Altona 5, Melton 4, Yarraville 3, Nth. Sunshine 2, Pascoe Vale 2, Carlton 1.

Central Division: Keon Park 10, Fitzroy 9, Anstey 9, Elsternwick 5, Fawkner 4, W. Preston 4, Regent 3, Lorimer 2, Middle Park 2, Diamond Creek 0, Elsternwick 0, Fawkner 0.

A.B.C. television on Wednesday, May 21, will be screening the European Soccer Cup semi-final between Manchester United and A.C. Milan.

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FIXTURES, RESULTS

STATE LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
R'wood City Wilhelmina	6	5	0	1	15	3	10
South Melb. Hellas	6	5	0	1	22	12	10
Juventus	6	4	1	1	14	6	9
Footscray J.U.S.T.	6	4	1	1	11	6	9
George Cross	6	3	1	2	9	8	7
Hakoah	6	2	2	2	9	9	6
Lions	6	3	0	3	12	12	6
Croatia	6	2	1	3	10	7	5
Port Melb. Slavia	6	2	1	3	5	11	5
Melbourne	6	1	2	3	5	10	4
Box Hill	6	0	1	5	6	16	1
Polonia	6	0	0	6	3	21	0

STATE LEAGUE RESERVES

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
R'wood City Wilhelmina	6	6	0	0	27	7	12
South Melb. Hellas	6	4	2	0	13	4	10
Footscray JUST	6	4	1	1	15	7	9
Juventus	6	3	1	2	19	5	7
Lions	6	3	0	3	14	13	6
Port Melb. Slavia	6	3	0	3	8	10	6
Polonia	6	3	0	3	8	14	6
Box Hill	6	2	1	3	9	15	5
Melbourne	6	2	1	3	4	9	5
George Cross	6	1	1	4	11	23	3
Hakoah	6	0	2	4	4	11	2
Croatia	6	0	1	5	3	17	1

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Alexander	6	5	1	0	15	4	11
Keilor City	6	3	2	1	10	5	8
Dandenong City	6	3	2	1	12	9	8
Elwood Austria	6	4	0	2	10	8	8
Springvale	6	2	2	2	7	6	6
Preston Makedonia	6	2	2	2	10	9	6
Ringwood United	6	2	2	2	12	12	6
Sunshine City	6	1	3	2	10	9	5
Coburg	6	2	1	3	10	14	5
Maribyrnong Triestina	6	1	3	2	7	11	5
Altona	6	1	2	3	4	10	4
St. Albans	6	0	0	6	5	15	0

DIVISION TWO

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Richmond	6	4	1	1	16	9	9
Waverley	6	4	0	2	13	8	8
Prahran City	6	3	2	1	14	9	8
Frankston City	6	4	0	2	16	12	8
Brunswick Athena	6	3	2	1	10	9	8
Albion Rovers	6	3	1	2	10	8	7
Green Gully Ajax	6	3	0	3	12	10	6
Moreland Thistle	6	3	0	3	10	10	6
Yallourn	6	2	2	2	10	13	6
Sandringham	6	1	1	4	4	7	3
Ferntree Gully	6	1	0	5	7	16	2
Park Rangers	6	0	1	5	4	15	1

DIVISION THREE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Brighton	6	5	0	1	16	7	10
Ballarat	6	4	1	1	12	6	9
East Melb. Helvetic	6	4	1	1	18	9	9
St. Kilda	6	3	1	2	15	15	7
Croydon	6	3	1	2	12	13	7
Princes Park Hercules	6	2	2	2	12	8	6
Heidelberg	6	3	0	3	15	17	6
Bayswater	6	2	1	3	18	16	5
Glenroy	6	2	1	3	7	15	5
Clayton	6	1	1	4	11	16	3
University of Melbourne	6	0	3	3	6	11	3
Chelsea	6	1	0	5	6	15	2

DIVISION FOUR

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Mooroolbark	6	5	1	0	18	2	11
Newport	6	4	1	1	18	7	9
Monash University	6	4	0	2	18	13	8
Western Suburbs	6	3	1	2	17	5	7
North Carlton Olympic	6	3	1	2	20	8	7
Corio	6	3	1	2	11	6	7
Doncaster Rovers	6	3	0	3	17	8	6
Eltham	6	3	0	3	18	15	6
Moorabbin	6	2	1	3	6	8	5
South Yarra	6	1	1	4	8	17	3
Rosebud	6	1	0	5	3	44	2
Mornington	6	0	1	5	5	26	1

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE RESERVES

DIVISION ONE RESERVES

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Keilor City	6	6	0	0	25	8	12
Altona	6	5	0	1	18	10	10
Springvale	6	4	0	2	18	12	8
Dandenong City	6	2	3	1	15	9	7
Elwood Austria	6	2	2	2	15	12	6
Coburg	6	2	2	2	12	11	6
Ringwood United	6	3	0	3	15	16	6
Alexander	6	2	1	3	11	11	5
Sunshine City	6	2	1	3	12	16	5
St. Albans	6	1	2	3	6	12	4
Maribyrnong Triestina	6	1	0	5	7	28	2
Preston Makedonia	6	0	1	5	9	18	1

DIVISION TWO RESERVES

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Albion Rovers	6	6	0	0	16	4	12
Waverley	6	5	0	1	25	2	10
Yallourn	6	5	0	1	24	6	10
Prahran	6	3	1	2	17	6	7
Frankston	6	3	1	2	17	10	7
Richmond	6	3	0	3	10	10	6
Green Gully Ajax	6	2	1	3	13	13	5
Park Rangers	6	2	0	4	10	16	4
Moreland Thistle	6	1	1	4	10	19	3
Brunswick Athena	6	1	1	4	5	34	3
Sandringham	6	1	1	4	1	19	3
Ferntree Gully	6	1	0	5	2	11	2

DIVISION THREE RESERVES

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Clayton	6	5	0	1	21	10	10
Brighton	6	5	0	1	21	11	10
Bayswater	6	4	2	0	18	11	10
Princes Park Hercules	6	4	1	1	18	11	9
Glenroy	6	4	0	2	14	12	8
Croydon	6	3	2	1	14	14	8
East Melb. Helvetic	6	2	1	3	10	12	5
Chelsea	6	2	0	4	11	12	4
Heidelberg	6	1	1	4	15	19	3
St. Kilda	6	0	2	4	11	22	2
University of Melbourne	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ballarat	6	0	0	0	0	0	0

DIVISION FOUR RESERVES

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Mooroolbark	6	6	0	0	37	5	12
Newport	6	5	1	0	27	7	11
North Carlton Olympic	6	5	0	1	24	8	10
South Yarra	6	4	2	0	23	9	10
Monash University	6	3	1	2	11	16	7
Doncaster	6	3	0	3	24	16	6
Corio	6	3	0	3	9	14	6
Eltham	6	2	0	4	13	20	4
Western Suburbs	6	1	1	4	10	21	3
Moorabbin	6	1	1	4	7	23	3
Mornington	6	0	0	6	6	19	0
Rosebud	6	0	0	6	7	40	0

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

STATE LEAGUE

SATURDAY, 17th MAY, 1969

Box Hill .... v. Port Melbourne Slavia .... (Box Hill) Referee: Verniers.

Juventus .... v. Ringwood City Wilhelmina .... (Olympic Park) Referee: Greenwood.

Hakoah .... v. Lions .... (Middle Park) Referee: Dixon.

SUNDAY, 18th MAY, 1969

Polonia .... v. George Cross .... (Maribyrnong) Referee: Harrison.

Croatia .... v. Footscray JUST .... (Olympic Park) Referee: Lamb.

Melbourne .... v. South Melbourne Hellas .... (St. Kilda) Referee: Pedler.

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

St. Albans .... v. Coburg ....
Sunshine City .... v. Ringwood United ....
Dandenong City .... v. Keilor City ....
Elwood Austria .... v. Altona City ....
Springvale .... v. Preston Makedonia ....
Maribyrnong Triestina .... v. Alexander ....

DIVISION TWO

Green Gully Ajax .... v. Ferntree Gully ....
Brunswick Athena .... v. Richmond ....
Frankston City .... v. Moreland Thistle ....
Sandringham City .... v. Albion Rovers ....
Waverley .... v. Prahran City ....
Park Rangers .... v. Yallourn ....

DIVISION THREE

Clayton .... v. Brighton ....
Ballarat .... v. Heidelberg ....
Chelsea .... v. Croydon ....
Princes Park Hercules .... v. Bayswater ....
St. Kilda .... v. Glenroy ....
East Melbourne Helvetic .... v. University of Melb. ..

DIVISION FOUR

Monash University .... v. Doncaster Rovers ....
Corio .... v. Newport ....
Eltham .... v. Moorabbin ....
North Carlton Olympic .... v. Deer Park ....
Rosebud .... v. Mornington ....
Mooroolbark .... v. South Yarra ....

THIRDS COMPETITION — Sunday, 18th May

Croydon .... v. Waverley ....
Dandenong .... v. Hakoah ....
Springvale .... v. Doncaster ....
University of Melbourne .... v. Clayton ....
Mooroolbark .... v. Brighton ....
Frankston City .... v. Ringwood United ....

DISTRICT LEAGUE — Sunday, 18th May

Eastern Division

Frankston Pines .... v. Cheltenham ....
Army Apprentices .... v. Hawksburn ....
Bye .... v. Frognall ....
Northcote .... v. Chadstone ....
South Dandenong .... v. Oakleigh ....
Langwarrin .... v. Bye ....

Western Division

Kingsville .... v. Garden City ....
Ardeer .... v. Yarraville ....
Carlton .... v. Melton ....
Pascoe Vale .... v. East Carlton ....
Bye 'A' — v. North Altona ....
North Sunshine .... v. Bye 'B' ....

Central Division

Keon Park .... v. Fawkner ....
Anstey .... v. West Preston ....
Elsternwick .... v. Middle Park ....
Regent .... v. Diamond Creek ....
Bye .... v. Lorimer United ....
Bye .... v. Fitzroy ....

Reserve Division

Frankston Pines .... v. Fawkner ....
South Dandenong .... v. East Carlton ....
Langwarrin .... v. North Sunshine ....

LATROBE VALLY

Seniors — Moe 0, Pegasus 3; Fortuna 3, Newborough 6; Falcons 0, Warragul 1; Traralgon 1, Rangers 0, Monash, bye. **Reserves** — Moe 4, Pegasus 0; Fortuna 0, Newborough 7; Falcons 2, Warragul 1; Traralgon 5, Rangers 2; Monash bye.

Seniors — Newborough 6 pts., Pegasus 6, Monash 4, Moe 4, Warragul 4, Falcons 3, Fortuna 2, Traralgon 2 Rangers 1. **Reserves** — Newborough 8 pts., Monash 6, Pegasus 4, Rangers 4, Moe 2, Traralgon 2, Warragul 2, Fortuna 2, Falcons 2.

GEELONG-BALLARAT

First Division — Hamlyn Rangers 2, Belmont 0; Geelong 5, Indesco 2; Mt. Clear 2, Bell Park 2; Geelong W. 3, Wendouree 1. **Second Division** — Hamlyn Rangers 0, Belmont 3; Geelong 4, Brintons 0; Mt. Clear 0, Bell Park 2; Geelong West 3, Wendouree 1; Langi Kal Kal 2, Geelong City 8.

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SOCCER ABROAD

REBEL SWEARS AT THE REF-FINED $215

Manchester City coach Malcolm Allison, Britain's soccer rebel, has been up to his old tricks again — swearing at the referee.

He was fined $215 and given a suspended sentence, which neither he nor the committee would reveal.

The fiery Allison he's already banned for life from sitting on the touchline — copped it again recently when he appeared before the F.A. disciplinary committee.

Whatever it was he is likely to tread more warily now when it comes to whistle men. If he doesn't he could find himself out of the game altogether.

Allison's abuse of referees has got him into hot water many times. Because of the no-touchline ban he now has to do all his shouting from the stands.

Allison's abuse of referees has got him into hot water many times. Because of the no-touchline ban he now has to do all his shouting from the stands.

That's where he was when his team played Leicester in the Cup Final at Wembley.

Despite his tendency to blow up, Allison is recognised as one of the best coaches in the business. And he's convinced that Manchester City are going to be world famous.

"I have never been more certain of anything in my soccer career," he says. "City have greatness within their reach.

"The vital point about our Wembley win is that we won the Cup a year after we won the championship and three years after we won the second division. The timing could not be more perfect.

"As I said to the boss, Joe Mercer, when our skipper, Tony Book, lifted the Cup: 'We have the foundation. Now let's build Nelson's Column.'

"Today, City are nowhere near their peak. I can and I will demand even more from them next season.

"You can never stop in this game — and we have just got to win something in Europe."

Manchester sign top youngster

Joe Armstrong, Manchester United's veteran chief scout, is convinced the club has landed another international-class wing-half in the making.

And so he should. He signed the boy in question, 16-year-old Eric Young, a Stockton lad now playing at left-half in the Old Trafford youth team.

Joe says Eric should follow in the footsteps of star United middle-line men like Henry Cockburn, Duncan Edwards, Nobby Stiles and Pat Crerand.

Says Joe: "Eric, at his age, is at the stage which Denis Violett, Geoff Whitefoot, Nobby Stiles and Bobby Charlton were at — which isn't a bad start."

Joe fixed up the signing of Young three months after he had made a determined bid to retire — and been "refused permission" by United boss Sir Matt Busby!

RESIGNATION

Metropolitan League chairman John Barclay has resigned from the committee of second division side Frankston City following a dispute on policy.

Mr. Barclay is also team manager of the Australian and Victorian squads.

KEEP THOSE ELBOWS OUT

Following a report by the inspection committee, referees have been told to clamp down on a practice used by many players — charging with the use of the elbow.

Tony Book, the Manchester City captain, is chaired by team-mates as he holds the F.A. Cup aloft after his team had defeated Leicester City 1-0 in the Cup Final at Wembley.

BURNLEY ARE JOLLY GOOD CHAPS

English division one side Burnley have impressed the fans — and officialdom — with their sporting behaviour in the past season.

Time and time again the Turf Moor players have fetched the ball for opponents, even when decisions have gone against them.

They deserve a pat on the back for setting an example at a time when petty time-wasting and delaying tactics are rife in soccer the world over.

Says manager Harry Potts: "Burnley have always preached sportsmanship to their players. This applied even in my playing days.

"Nowadays it is drilled into our youngsters from the moment they join us. We tell them to treat opponents as they would wish to be treated.

"Of course, there is a danger that opponents will take advantage. For instance, a goalie having the ball fetched for him might slip a quick goal-kick to a full-back while the winger is out of position.

"If that happens, I still expect my players to fetch the ball, but to make sure they are in a position to cover their man.

"We are not concerned with other teams' behavior.

"We have our standards at Turf Moor and expect our players to try to live up to them, whatever the opposition".

MACHINE FIXTURES

The Scottish Football League has handed over the job of choosing next season's program to . . . a machine!

Instead of secretary Fred Donovan drawing up a fixture schedule, the work will be done by a computer.

"The next season will be tighter than ever", he says, "so we reckoned the computer could do the job more efficiently".

Johnny keeps bouncing back

Leeds United manager Don Revie has scoffed at ideas that Johnny Giles, the team's midfield general, is injury prone.

Elland Road fans have expressed this fear because the little Irishman has missed many games this season after taking knocks.

Last season he had an even rougher time, playing in fewer than half the League games.

Says Revie: "Johnny has certainly missed a fair number of games. But it is a case of him running into a series of different knocks rather than consistent physical weakness.

"This is due to his style of play. Opponents know he is a danger man and he is always closely marked.

"Johnny is also unusual as a midfield player in that he is not prepared to merely confront an opponent when he drops back.

"He goes into the tackle like a true defender.

"This means he is liable to take punishment whether he is working up front or falling back in defence.

"Fortunately, Johnny is a fitness fanatic and is continually exercising outside normal training."

IT'S NOT THE END FOR FIERY NOBBY

Manchester United half-back Nobby Stiles, often the subject of fierce controversy because of his robust play, ended up as the hero of England's World Cup win in 1966.

But since then it hasn't all been plain sailing for this little soccer battler.

A cartilage operation even had him thinking that he might have to give up the game. His form fluctuated and no longer was he an automatic choice for the England team.

But there is no doubt in the mind of one expert that Stiles has now overcome his troubles

Birmingham City assistant manager Joe Mallett says: "I am convinced that he is a better player than ever.

"Our games with United have given me a real close-up of Nobby. I say without hesitation that he is playing the best of his career.

"For a start, he is much less impetuous.

"Also, his readings of situations while in defence shows that he has absorbed all the lessons his vast experience has given him.

Florentina repeat?

With only two more games to go Fiorentina, who last won the Italian championship 13 years ago, look set for a repeat this season.

They are topping the league table with Milan and Cagliari, who were leaders of the 16-team league until recently. In trouble at the foot of the table are Vicenza, Varese, Atalanta and Pisa.

With excitement mounting for the climax of the season, crowds at top games have jumped. About 50,000 saw Fiorentina down Pisa recently and more than 80,000 saw Napoli beat Cagliari.

TAFFY ON THE POOLS

Nice to know that some of the big money is finding its way out here. The $174,000 that went to Sydney last week turned out to be a regular reader of our Soccer News.

It looks like a big payout again on the Treble Chance. There were only 11 draws on Saturday. They were one in the Ireland v. Wales International; one in N.S.W.; three in Queensland; ONLY one in Victoria; four in S.A. and one in W.A.

The balance of the coupons was made up of 17 Aways and 27 Homes.

Here are the dividends in sterling currency for Saturday, May 3, when there were 10 draws:

LITTLEWOODS

Treble Chance: 23 pts., £1004/7/- for 1d.; 22½ pts., £146/7/-; 22 pts., £8; 21½ pts., £2/14/-; 21 pts., 12/-.

Twelve Match Results Pools: 12 correct, £96/12/- for 2d.; 11 correct, £3/4/-; 10 correct, 6/-.

Three Darws, 60/-.

VERNONS

Treble chance: 24 pts., £18,726/10/- for a farthing; 23 pts., £49; 22½ pts., £22/15/-; 22 pts., £1.

Twelve Match Results Pools: 12 correct, £17/8/- for 2d.; 11 correct, 14/-. No third dividend.

Three draws, 50/-.

And now for Saturday week, May 24, the following should win at home for the stake-saving pool:

*Latrobe Qld.
*Lions
*Alexander
*Makedonia
*Ajax
*Prahran
Richmond
*Bayswater
*Newport
*South Yarra
Eastern S.A.
*Hellas S.A.
Victoria S.A.
Cracovia W.A.
*Cockburn W.A.
Croatia W.A.

THREE DRAWS

Thistle v. St. Helens Qld.
Albion Rovers v. Frankston
Box Hill v. Polonia

And now for those hard-to-find draws, here are my selections for the Treble Chance pools:

West Wallsend v. Weston N.S.W.
*Thistle v. St. Helens Qld.
South Coast v. Budapest Qld.
*Box Hill v. Polonia
Slavia v. J.U.S.T.
Altonia v. Dandenong
*Ringwood v. Triestina
*Albion Rovers v. Frankston
*Clayton v. Ballarat
*University v. St. Kilda
Monash v. Corio
*Elizabeth v. Lions S.A.
*Cumberland v. Port Adelaide S.A.
*Swan Athletic v. Cottesloe W.A.

(* indicates best selections)

Until next week, happy punting. May it be Melbourne's turn to win the big one. — TAFFY.

Navy team gets help

VICTORIAN squad and J.U.S.T. coach Zvonimir Rasic is taking time off to help a Navy inter-Services team in its preparation for representative games against R.A.A.F. and Army sides at the end of this month.

He was at HMAS Cerberus, Flinders Naval Depot, this week, giving the Navy men some coaching tips.

He will repeat the dose next week.

Coach switches

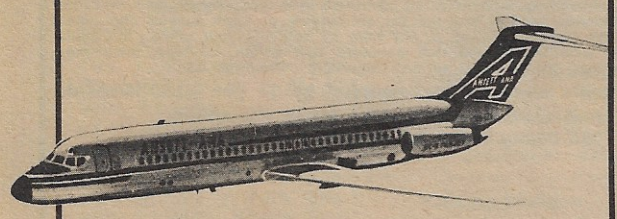
PADDY SLOAN, who has given good coaching service to many clubs, has switched to George Cross, where he will be in charge of reserves and juniors.

BIG FEE

WING-HALF Tommy Craig, 18, of Aberdeen, has joined Sheffield Wed. in the English Division One at a fee of $240,000.

This means he joins Liverpool's Alun Evans, signed from Wolves for a similar fee recently, as one of the most expensive teenage players in Britain.

HERMES TRAVEL AGENCY



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